

May 22 2020

Noticias y Notas

News and notes from the Second Judicial District Court

Passion for New Mexico culture drives artistic pursuits

Any Second Judicial District Court employee who happens to tune their radio to KANW, 89.1 FM, on a Saturday morning between 6:00 AM and 9:00 AM might hear a familiar voice.

Monica Rodriguez, Deputy Court Executive Officer for Children's Court, hosts a program called New Mexico Music in that timeslot. She has been the program's regular host for nearly two years, but she has been on the radio, primarily as a fill-in host, for more than a decade.

"I have volunteered for just about every organization you can imagine," Rodriguez said. "When the chance to volunteer at KANW came along, I couldn't pass it up. It was an opportunity to meld my volunteerism with a genre of music I grew up with and I still really love."

New Mexico music, according to Rodriguez, is a blend of music from different eras and genres. "It is rooted in the experiences New Mexicans have had living on the border," she explained. "It includes music from the 'Golden Age' of Mexican music; there is a lot of Mariachi and Tex-Mex in there. What makes it interesting, is that a lot of the artists are from New Mexico and have written songs about New Mexico history." [See the rest of the story here.](#)



Deputy Court Executive Officer Monica Rodriguez's weekly radio show features New Mexico Music.



Special Master Catherine Begaye is one of SJDC's mask avengers.

Mask avengers keeping court employees safe

Face masks are essential—and now required—equipment for all court employees and visitors as we continue to fight the spread of COVID-19.

More than 20 SJDC employees answered the Supreme Court's challenge to make masks for the protection of their co-workers and members of the public.

Special Master Catherine Begaye from the Children's Court Division, pictured at left, is part of that group. "I received six yard of fabric and was able to turn out 41 masks," she said. "This is the most I've sewn in a long time but it was really rewarding. If they have more fabric, I'm motivated to keep going."

[See masks, cont., on page 2.](#)



Shout outs



This is the space where we sound the horn for outstanding performances.

This week's shout out goes to the **Self-Help and Dispute Resolution team** for its quick work in setting up a remote model for serving clients. The number of inquiries to center has increased during the crisis, but this group has handled them with ease, and even helping clients stay calm in the midst of the crisis. A job **Well done.**

Have news to share?

Send it to:

albdxsh@nmcourt.gov

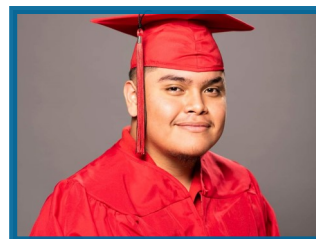
It can be a story, a photo or a special announcement. We also welcome your personal stories.

Celebrating the graduating class of 2020

We are continuing our tribute to the Class of 2020 graduates this week by featuring Angel Perez, who is graduating from Albuquerque's Mission Achievement and Success Charter School.

Angel, who has plans to attend college, is the son of Guadalupe Marrufo, Judicial Specialist 2, in the Criminal Division of the Court Clerk's Office. If you missed last week's issue, you can see the full list of 2020 graduates [here](#).

And watch for a special graduation-related feature next week. There may be prizes involved.



**Mission Achievement and Success Charter School Graduate
Angel Perez.**

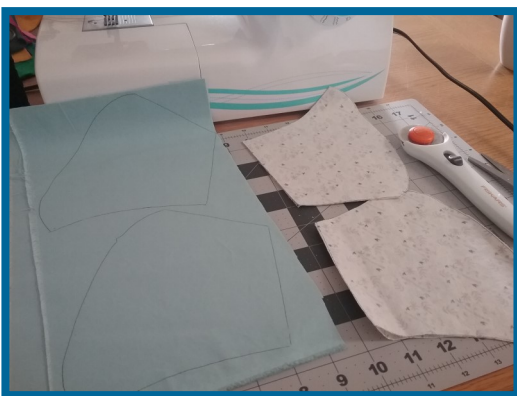


Food drive extended

The Second Judicial District Court's food drive in support of Road Runner Food Bank has been extended a week to May 29, 2020. If you can help, please bring non-perishable food items to the Jury Room at the downtown courthouse or to the Children's Court Clerk's Office. You will be part of a network that reaches 70,000 hungry children, seniors and families each week.

masks, cont.

SJDC management is giving mask-makers incentive to keep going by sponsoring a mask design contest. Mask design samples can be submitted to Court Administration/Human Resources office up until 5:00 PM Friday June 5, 2020. Creators of the top-two designs will be awarded gift certificates. They, along with all of our other mask avengers, have contributed to the continued health of safety of the court and surrounding community.



Special Master Begaye's mask-making in progress.



DyAnna Garcia, front, with her in-laws, who made masks for SJDC and numerous other organizations.

In addition to our fellow employees, we need to thank Melanie and Donald Trujillo, whose daughter-in-law, DyAnna Garcia, supervises the Civil Division of the Court Clerk's Office. The Trujillos included SJDC among the numerous organizations for which they have made and donated nearly 500 masks.